3:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1938) 1940 MM1 Aden MM1

Most of the dwelling-houses within the Settlement limits are well ventilated and lighted and are satisfactory from a public health point of view. Endeavours are being made to effect an improvement in architectural standards.

There are still a few buildings in Maala and Sheikh Othman where the old type of house exists, but improvement grows every year by demolition and reconstruction, and the majority of the population is comfortably housed.

Water Supply

The water supply of Aden is obtained from six bore-wells situated near the village of Sheikh Othman. The supply for the civil population is pumped into two tanks each of 100,000 gallons capacity, and from these tanks the supply gravitates through a 15-in. main to a storage reservoir of 400,000 gallons capacity at the Isthmus.

The total amount of water raised from these bore holes during 1938 was 236,178,000 gallons. This represents an average daily supply of 647,000 gallons, and taking the population as 47,000 an average of 14 gallons per head per day for all purposes.

The following table gives details of the water used in Aden during the years 1936, 1937 and 1938.

Details of water.	*1936.*	*1937.*	*1938.*
Total water raised at bore-holes.	204,887,000	207,368,000	236,178,000
Total water delivered to Fortress area.	118,429,000	121,980,000	133,525,000
Total water delivered to Military.	25,320,000*	23,671,000	27,564,000
Total water sold for Shipping purposes.	18,489,000	20,704,000	21,273,000
Total water used for gardens	76,992,000	84,385,000	98,087,000
Water unaccounted, for per cent. loss.	32·9 per cent.	23·0 per cent.	21·19 per cent.

* This high figure was due to the extra number of Military temporarily drafted to Aden in 1936.

The increase in the consumption of water for all purposes is due chiefly to the extension of the distribution mains.

Maintenance Work

The majority of the work carried out by the Water and Drainage Department comes under the above heading and includes the following:—

(1) *Pumping plant.*—This comprises five reciprocating and five centrifugal pumps, all of which have been examined regularly and kept in good mechanical order. These pumps work on an average of 12 hours a day, and the supply was not once interrupted during the year.

3:Gt. Brit. Colonial Office G-3 (1938) 1940 MM1 Aden MM1

The standby electricity generating set was used once each week and generates enough energy to run two bore-hole pumps, giving approximately 17,000 gallons per hour.

(2) *Reservoirs and Tanks.*—These comprise 11 steel plate tanks and two masonry reservoirs situated over the distribution system.

(3) *New Bore-hole Pump.*—A new type of bore-hole pump, in which both the electric motor and the pump are lowered into the bore-hole and run submerged was purchased and installed in bore No. 3 at a cost of Rs. 11,925.

The pump has not been entirely satisfactory as sand in the water has caused damage to the pump and motor bearings. It is considered that it proved, however, that the supply of water from the bores can be increased, without affecting the underground storage level. During a continuous test of 22 days, 8,976,000 gallons of water were raised from bore No. 3 without lowering the normal rest level.

(4) *Distribution.*—The water-supply to the Fortress was uninterrupted during the year, and no restriction whatever in the use of water was imposed on the general public.

Owing to the Electricity Department being unable to cope with the great demand for energy between the hours of 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. pumping at Sheikh Othman and Isthmus was restricted during these hours. Owing to the existing storage capacity of the reservoirs, this restriction was applied only to the shipping companies refilling their water boats for supplies to shipping during these four hours. In practice very little inconvenience was caused.

(5) *Storage Capacity.*—The present storage capacity of the Waterworks Department is as follows:—

		Gallons.	*Approximate total hours Domestic supply.*
			hours.
(i) Sheikh Othman	Civil Supply ...	195,000	27
	Supply to R.A.F.	37,000	12
(ii) Fortress	Isthmus ...	400,000	64
	Johar Ridge ...	129,000	42
	Crater ...	216,000	36
	Tawahi ...	96,000	30
Total Storage Capacity		1,073,000	

The total hours supply figures are based on the assumption that in time of emergency the supply to gardens and shipping would be stopped.

(6) *Water Connections.*—The total number of water connections to different premises in Aden is 2,595. The number of new connections made during 1938 was 549 compared with 417 for the previous year.

3:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1938) 1940 MM1 Aden MM1

206 The present rates for direct connections are :—

	Rs.
Within a radius of 3 miles of the exchange	300 per annum.
For each additional half mile or fraction thereof	40 ,, ,,
An extension in the same building costs	120 ,, ,,

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS

653 Public Works in Aden are managed by the Aden Port Trust who maintain a separate staff for this Department. For this service the Port Trust are paid the actual expenditure of this department plus 7½ per cent. for office accommodation, and other incidental expenses.

Works in connection with roads, the development of the water supply and the electricity supply are carried out by the Aden Settlement.

The harbour and wharves are under the control of the Aden Port Trust.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS

Justice and Crime

692 The Colony has a Supreme Court with unlimited civil and criminal
695 jurisdiction. An appeal lies from the Supreme Court to the High
681 Court of Judicature at Bombay—

(*a*) in civil cases—

(i) from any final judgment where the value of the subject matter in dispute in appeal is Rs. 5,000 or upwards,

(ii) with the leave of the Supreme Court or the High Court of Judicature at Bombay, from any judgment, final or interlocutory, if, by reason of the importance of the question involved in the appeal or otherwise, the Court is satisfied that leave to appeal ought to be granted; and

(*b*) in criminal cases, from any judgment, provided that the sentence imposed is one of imprisonment exceeding six months or of fine exceeding Rs. 500 or is one which includes such imprisonment or fine.

When sentence of death is passed, an appeal, whether lodged or not, is deemed to have been lodged and the Courts concerned act accordingly.

A second appeal lies to His Majesty in Council—

(*a*) as of right, from any final judgment of the High Court, when the value of the subject-matter in dispute in such second

4:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1937) 1939 MM1 Aden MM1

Dyeing.

There are three factories which do business in dyeing cloth and each employs on an average about 60 persons daily. There are in addition about 18 dyers who do business on a small scale. The dyed goods are mainly exported to Mombasa, Mogadiscio, Massowa, Hodeidah, and the interior of Arabia.

Cigarette Making.

The cigarette industry is conducted on a fairly large scale by Jews and Greeks with tobacco imported from Egypt.

VII.—COMMERCE.

Customs.

Aden being a free port, there are no customs duties.

Trade.

The trade of Aden is mainly transhipment, as the port is a centre for trade between all ports of the world and the neighbouring territories. The principal business is in skins, hides, coffee, cotton piece goods, grain and pulse, sugar, spices, oils, tobacco, gums, shells, and salt. The total value of the sea-borne trade in the year under report (12 months January to December 1937), exclusive of transhipment cargo, was Rs.12,58,94,031 (imports Rs.8,03,85,836 and exports Rs.4,55,08,195), showing an increase of Rs.1,57,18,773 as compared with the total of Rs.11,01,75,258 (imports and exports for the previous official year—12 months, April, 1936 to March, 1937—imports Rs.6,87,17,900 and exports Rs.4,14,57,358). Merchandise increased by Rs.79,67,977, and treasure increased to Rs.77,50,796.

The increase of Rs.79,67,977 in merchandise was mainly in grain and pulse, hides and skins, coal, oils, vehicles, tea, gums, and salt. The increase of Rs.77,50,796 in treasure was due to transactions in imports and exports of Maria Theresa dollars, in which there was considerable speculation.

The Trade Registration Department was formerly a branch of the Aden Port Trust Revenue Department, but on the recommendation of Mr. J. Sladen, who was deputed to Aden in the year 1906 on special duty, it was separated from the 1st April, 1907, and became a Government department. The department is however supervised by the Secretary, Aden Port Trust.

The old Qafilah office at Barrier Gate, where the registration of inland trade is conducted, was taken over by the Government from the Aden Port Trust in 1910 and subsequently converted into an office and quarters for the Qafilah clerk in 1914.

The following statement shows the total value of the imports and exports sea-borne trade of Aden for the last five years.

4-Gt. Brit. Colonial Office G-3 (1937) 1939 MM1 Aden MM1

Telephones.

206 655 The Government Telephone Exchange is worked on the central battery system and has a capacity of 200 exchange lines.

Early telephone developments in Aden were associated with the defence of the fortress. The first system (a magneto one) was installed and operated by the military authorities and later, when the Air Ministry became responsible for defence, the control of the telephones naturally passed to that Ministry.

From 1927 onwards endeavours were made to get the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department to accept responsibility for the system, but it was not till 1932 that the Indian Authorities took it over. By that time the magneto exchange and the overhead lines had reached the end of their useful life. The old system was therefore discontinued and a new central battery system constructed at a cost (including buildings) of about Rupees 1,50,000.

The present rates for direct connections are:—

	Rs.
Within a radius of 3 miles of the exchange ...	300 per annum.
For each additional half mile or fraction thereof ...	40 ,,

An extension in the same building costs Rs. 120/- per annum.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

653 The public works in Aden are managed by the Aden Port Trust who maintain a separate staff for this department. For this service the Port Trust are paid the actual expenditure of this department plus 7½ per cent. for office accommodation and other incidental expenses.

A general programme of minor works was carried out. Provision was also made for the construction of quarters for the Chief Justice, the Legal Adviser and the Education Officer, but these houses were only partially complete at the end of the year.

Two of the Political Officers' bungalows, started in December, 1936, were completed and occupied and the bungalow for the third Political Officer was started.

Works in connection with roads, the development of the water supply and the electricity supply were undertaken by the Aden Settlement.

The harbour and wharves are under the control of the Aden Port Trust. General works of improvement were carried out during the year.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice and Crime.

692 The Colony has a Supreme Court with unlimited civil and criminal jurisdiction. An appeal lies from the Supreme Court to the High Court of Judicature at Bombay—

4 Gt. Brit. Colonial Office G-3 (1937) 1939 MM1 Aden MM1

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651

EXPENDITURE.

	Rs.	Rs.
Recurrent	1,586,244	1,597,000
Extraordinary	73,200	160,000
	1,659,444	1,757,000

It will be observed that the chief revenue increase is under Posts and Telephones and the item responsible for this is the sale of stamps to collectors and dealers, both the new issue introduced on the inauguration of the Colony and the Coronation issue.

653 652 The increase under Extraordinary Expenditure arises out of the necessity to build quarters for the Chief Justice, the Legal Adviser and the Education Officer.

652 The surplus for the year 1937/38 will be just over Rs.3 lakhs, which will practically wipe out the excess of liabilities taken over from the Government of India. It is estimated that the financial year 1938/39 will open with assets just about balancing the liabilities.

Public Debt.

The Colony has no public debt.

Taxation.

651 The main source of revenue is Income Tax which is levied under the Income Tax Ordinance 1937. In the case of every company and registered firm the rate is two annas and four and a sixth pies in the rupee; in the case of individuals, etc., the rate varies from six and a half pies in the rupee on incomes over Rs.2,000 to two annas and four and a sixth pies in the rupee on incomes over Rs.100,000. In respect of the excess of total income over a specified figure which varies from Rs.30,000 to Rs.75,000 according to the circumstances. Supertax is also charged.

There are no customs duties, but there is an excise duty on intoxicating liquors.

The production of salt is subject to a tax which is collected when the commodity is exported or sold for local consumption. Practically the whole of the salt tax revenue is derived from salt exported to India and the Far East. The tax on salt so exported is 8 annas per ton.

5:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden MM1

the cost of electricity to the general public is at the rate of 5 annas

485 per unit for lighting and fans, and 2 annas per unit for refrigerators. The power rates for industrial purposes vary with the amount used, and whether or not condensers are fitted to the motors. The average rate, however, is approximately 2·57 annas per unit. (An anna equals 1·125 pence.)

651 Revenue from all sources in 1947 was Rs. 11,00,000 (£82,500).

652 Accurate figures of expenditure cannot be given at present as the Crown Agents accounts for the latter end of the year have not yet been received, but it is estimated that it will be about £81,000.

Consumers at the end of 1947 numbered 3,069, compared with 2,736 at the same date last year.

OTHER PUBLIC WORKS

Maintenance of Buildings

653 Government own most of the buildings used for public purposes in the Colony and a large staff is maintained by the Public Works Department in maintaining them in a proper state of repair and carrying out minor improvements.

New Buildings

All new Government buildings were constructed departmentally by direct labour and the principal works completed in 1947 were:

	£
Conversion of an existing office into a Secondary School for boys	3,800
Conversion of an existing barrack in the Armed Police Lines into married quarters	2,000
Alterations to Prison Buildings	1,500
Extension to Office of Public Works Department	3,500
New Slaughter-House and Segregation Stable at Maalla	800
Construction of 40 working-class quarters at Sheikh Othman	9,000
Conversion of Cable and Wireless Building into flats for Government officials	2,700
Garages, tiffin room and store at Secretariat	1,500
Quarter for Police Inspector, Sheikh Othman	650
Quarters for two Police Inspectors, Maalla	700
New Public Bathing Place, Crater	500

Mechanical Workshop

A small mechanical workshop is maintained where all motor transport of the Public Health and Public Works Departments are serviced and repaired. Animal-drawn vehicles such as refuse carts, night-soil tumbler carts, etc., are also made and repaired.

Building Plans

All deposited building plans submitted by the general public are first checked by the P.W.D. and then passed to the respective townships for formal approval.

5:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden MM1

All buildings in course of erection are inspected periodically to ensure that they comply with the regulations in force. Seventy-eight permanent building permits were issued in 1947, compared with 21 in the previous year.

Crown Lands

The Director of Public Works is also Commissioner and Registrar of Lands, and all tranafers of immovable property made during the year were duly registered after the various titles had been carefully scrutinised.

Eighteen parcels of Crown land were also leased during the year to the general public for various building purposes, compared with two in 1946.

Stores

All work is carried out departmentally by direct labour, and consequently large stocks of building and other stores have to be kept. Deliveries of most goods from the United Kingdom during 1947 were much better than in the previous year, and stores to the value of £55,000 were issued to the various works during the year under review.

Labour

Little or no difficulty was experienced in obtaining artisans or labourers until the latter part of the year, when a large number of masons and carpenters left for more lucrative employment in the Persian Gulf. The standard of tradesmen is not high, and the establishment of a Trade School which Government have under consideration would go a long way to raise the standard of local craftsmen to a higher level.

BROADCASTING

There has been no broadcasting service since the Aden Station ZNR closed down at the end of 1945. Towards the end of 1947 the re-introduction of this service, at least for emergency purposes, was proposed, and the possibility of reviving broadcasting, whether for emergency purposes or as a regular service, considered.

Number of wireless receiving licenses	625
Number of radio diffusion subscribers	Nil

Chapter 11 : Communications

ROADS

There are no railways in the Colony, and communication between the various townships is by road.

The main roads are constructed in bituminous macadam, and average 20 feet in width. Some secondary roads are similarly constructed,

6:Gt. Brit. . Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden M M |

Hedjuff (Luke Thomas), Isthmus (pump house), Khormaksar (new housing estate).

Staff

Difficulty was experienced in obtaining qualified shift engineers and artisans, although many more applied for posts as apprentices in the department. The first to complete his five years' apprenticeship was sent to Kenya to gain further experience with the East Africa Power Co. There was no shortage of unskilled labour or clerks.

General

A Tannoy loud-speaker system was installed for the use of the Information Office at Tawahi, Hedjuff, Maalla and Crater.

The cost of electricity remained the same as in 1947, i.e. at the rate of 5 annas per unit for lighting and fans, and 2 annas per unit for refrigerators. The power rates for industrial purposes vary with the amount used, and whether or not condensers are fitted to the motors. The average rate, however, was approximately 2·57 annas per unit.

Revenue from all sources was Rs. 12,81,649. Accurate figures of expenditure cannot be given at present, as the Crown Agents accounts for the latter part of the year have not yet been received.

Consumers at the end of 1948 numbered 3,412 compared with 3,069 in 1947, with 200 prospective consumers awaiting connections and a further 560 having applied for permission to instal wiring in their premises.

PUBLIC WORKS

Maintenance of Buildings

Government own most of the buildings used for public purposes in the Colony, and a large staff is maintained by the Public Works Department in maintaining them in a proper state of repair, and carrying out minor improvements.

New Buildings

Practically all new Government buildings are constructed departmentally by direct labour, and the principal works completed in 1948 were:

	£
Quarters	
6 Houses for Senior Government Officials	14,000
Education	
Boys' Primary School, Tawahi	8,600
Class-room and administration office, Secondary School, Crater	9,090
Three additional class-rooms, sports shelter and tuck shop at Boys' School, Sheikh Othman	2,250
Social Welfare	
Working-class dwelling, Sheikh Othman	19,100
Aidrus Valley Housing Scheme	7,150

6:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden M M1

	£
Medical	
Improvement to Civil Hospital	2,000
Health	
Dormitory for 50 domestic servants, Tawahi . . .	750
Prison	
Improvement to Prison Buildings	2,300

Mechanical Workshop

A small mechanical workshop is maintained where all motor transport of the Public Health and Public Works Departments are serviced and repaired. Animal-drawn vehicles such as refuse carts, night-soil tumbler carts, etc., are also made and repaired.

Furniture

Owing to the difficulty in obtaining furniture in Aden, the Government instituted a scheme in 1945 whereby expatriate officials could obtain furniture on hire.

This furniture is made partly by the Public Works Department and partly by local contractors, and during 1948 562 pieces of furniture (182 by the Public Works Department) were made and issued.

Building Plans

All deposited building plans submitted by the general public are first checked by the Public Works Department and then passed on to the respective townships for formal approval.

All buildings in course of erection are inspected periodically to ensure that they comply with the regulations in force. Ninety-nine permanent building permits were issued in 1948, compared with 78 in the previous year.

Crown Lands

The Director of Public Works is also Commissioner and Registrar of Lands, and all transfers of immoveable property made during the year were duly registered after the various titles had been carefully scrutinised.

Nineteen parcels of Crown land were also leased during the year to the general public, for various building purposes.

Stores

All work is carried out departmentally by direct labour, and consequently large stocks of building and other stores have to be kept. Deliveries of most goods from the United Kingdom during 1948 were a great improvement on the previous year, and stores to the value of £79,400 were issued to the various works during the year under review.

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden mm1

THE COLONY

PART I

Review of 1949 and 1950

THE progress of the Colony has been uninterrupted by any serious political or industrial disputes, or by epidemic disease, and both in numbers of residents and material prosperity it has grown far beyond any previous records. The number of ships calling at Aden for fuel make it one of the busiest ports of the world, handling a tonnage comparable with Liverpool, while the air services radiating from Aden to the Middle East, India and the East African Territories have increased in number and frequency. The new civil airport is nearing completion. A new radio-telephone link has been established with East Africa and London. 185

Steady progress has been made with the Education Five-Year Plan, and with other development works, described in more detail below, and the revenue has remained adequate for recurrent expenditure and for substantial expenditure upon new works without raising additional taxation.

The increase in the population has been caused mainly by the immigration of Arabs from the interior (Aden Protectorate and Yemen) and of Indians and Pakistanis, in most cases single men only. In order to prevent the influx into Aden of people for whom there cannot be found employment or housing, new Immigration Rules were introduced in May, 1950, under which an intending immigrant must satisfy the Government that he is coming to an approved occupation for which no suitable local candidate (of any race) is available. This control has been so far effected mainly on persons arriving by sea. The protection of local employees is being accompanied by a vigorous programme of school building, including a technical college, to raise the educational standard of local candidates. 167 464 653

The late Mr. A. Antonin Besse, K.B.E., made a generous gift of £50,000 to the Colony; £29,000 is to be spent on buildings at the new Technical College and it is proposed to use the balance for the education of women in Aden. 741 871

A population movement of great significance was completed during the period under review by the migration of nearly 42,000 Jews of Yemen origin to Israel. Arrangements for their air lift from Aden were made by the Israeli Authorities in close co-operation with the Aden Government, and the operation was completed without accident or any outbreak of disease, and without molestation by the Arab communities through whom they passed. 167

The Yemeni Jews have thus ceased to be an important element of the population of Southern Arabia, and in Aden Colony they have 563

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden MM1

financial year. Nevertheless, in spite of these adverse circumstances the year ended with a surplus balance of Rs. 181 lakhs compared with an estimated Rs. 173 lakhs. 652

For the 1950-51 financial year it was proposed to finance the development programme to the extent of Rs. 46 lakhs from surplus balances. Revised estimates for this year indicate that while revenue will be more productive than was anticipated it will not be possible to complete the full year's development programme and the balances on 31st March, 1951 are now estimated to be roughly Rs. 156 lakhs instead of Rs. 128 lakhs as was originally estimated.

In 1950 the revised Colony development plan made satisfactory progress, especially in regard to educational expansion and the provision of additional water supplies. Nearly Rs. 21 lakhs were spent on development during 1949-50 and it is expected that a further Rs. 37 lakhs will have been spent by 31st March, 1951. It is particularly gratifying to record the progress made with the educational five year Plan. The Technical College will be ready for occupation in 1951. Work on the Aden College is progressing satisfactorily and in accordance with the time-table. The Khusaf Valley Boys' School has been completed and the Maalla School has been enlarged. The second girls' school at Crater is already in use. As a result of the work undertaken there are now 4,000 places available in Government schools compared with 2,000 in 1947. Other works have made progress also. The road scheme continues and Rs. 3 lakhs are being provided in 1951 for further work. Another 84 working-class dwellings will have been built at Sheikh Othman by the end of 1951. The second stage in the building of the civil airport has begun and it is estimated that the terminal building should be ready for occupation early in 1952. Work on the water supplies continues satisfactorily, and some electricity plant materials have been received. 653 658

On the other side of the picture it must be recorded that rising costs and continued delay over the supply of key equipment has meant a further postponement of the date when the electricity and telephone development schemes can be brought into operation. Although the development programme costs were revised as recently as mid-1949, it is already apparent that these estimates no longer hold good and that the remaining part of the programme must be reviewed afresh in the near future. 653

A table of Colonial Development and Welfare Schemes follows this chapter as an Appendix. *

* [See p. 6, cat. 116, or cat. 65--Analyst]

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden MM1

875 204 The monthly teachers' journal completed its third year and was well run by a small committee of teachers. Its popularity is such that it was increased in size to eight pages, and a considerable number were sold to the public. It contains departmental and professional news, articles and world news.

875 No complaint in general could be made about the enthusiasm of teachers; there was a much better corporate feeling and a growing sense of professional prestige, but their cultural background remains poor.

Weekly meetings of all women teachers were held during the cooler months. Talks on general education were given by the Principal of the Government Secondary School, and lectures in method and games by the Egyptian teachers.

Building

653 871 Considerable progress has been made with the school buildings foreshadowed in the five-year Development Plan. Work has already begun on the Aden College and the Technical College has been completed. It is hoped that the former will be opened early in 1952 and the latter accepted students early in 1951. Two further girls' schools and a boys' school have been built in Crater and the boys' school at Maalla has been doubled in size. Extensions have been made to three other schools. As a result of these developments there are now 4,000 places available in Government schools compared with 2,000 in 1947.

Technical Education

874 This continued satisfactorily on the lines drawn up by the Principal-Designate of the Technical College, and two Arabs who had been on two-year technical scholarships in England returned in 1950 and assisted in the implementation of the new syllabuses of handwork and art.

Adult Education

873 Evening classes for women and girls were unfortunately not given during 1949-50 owing to shortage of Egyptian staff. Normally dress-making, knitting, embroidery and Arabic are taught. Classes should be resumed shortly.

Weekly talks were given at the British Institute. A privately-run commercial school provided evening instruction in commercial subjects and in English, but the British Institute ceased to hold classes.

Parents' Committee

871 Meetings of this committee were held every six weeks and many points of great value and interest were discussed. It continued to be a most useful contact between the officers of the Department and the public.

HEALTH

164 A steady improvement in the general state of the public health was revealed by the continued, in some cases marked, decline in the various health indices such as the death rate, infant mortality rate and the T.B. death rate.

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden MM1

The Armed Police is a semi-military force and is responsible for the maintenance of internal security. They provide guards where necessary and escorts for prisoners. They are trained and organised to provide an immediate striking force in the event of internal disorders. They also provide garrisons for the Islands of Perim and Kamaran.

Recruiting to maintain the Force up to strength has continued satisfactorily. Unfortunately the standard of literacy in the Force has remained low, as literate candidates do not present themselves for recruitment. The training of recruits in elementary English has continued.

There was an improvement in living conditions with the completion of new barracks in the Armed Police Lines and the construction of a new Police station, inspectors' quarters, and men's quarters at Khormaksar. In due course it is hoped that every member of the Force will be adequately housed.

The total number of cases registered under the Indian Penal Code was 711 in 1949 and 816 in 1950, compared with 889 in 1948 and 1,233 in 1947. There were 423 cases of offences against property in 1949 and 531 in 1950. The total value of property stolen was Rs. 91,684 in 1949 and Rs. 302,549 in 1950, of which property to the value of Rs. 19,461 and Rs. 25,324 respectively was recovered.

During 1949 and 1950 the numbers of cases dealt with by Police under local Ordinances were 4,704 and 7,826.

The volume of work in the Immigration Department has increased considerably since the implementation of the Immigration Rules in May, 1950. This has been largely due to the documentation involved under the new rules and the increased vigilance required to detect persons who have overstayed the validity of their permits.

PRISON

There was a considerable drop in the prison population in 1949 and 1950; the daily average number fell from 330 in 1948 to 157 in 1950—a drop of 48 per cent. Seventy-eight per cent of the convicted prisoners were from the Yemen and other neighbouring territories.

Consequent upon the drop in the prison population the prison officers were better able to carry out their duties which resulted in better discipline, fewer punishments and greater output in prison industries.

In spite of the smaller number of convicted prisoners (mostly on short terms) engaged on remunerative works, excellent progress has been made with the prison industries resulting in a very substantial increase in the revenue from the sales of manufactured articles. These industries are more than self-supporting and give a good training to the prisoners.

In 1950, two long-term prisoners, sent by the Mukalla Government for training, were taught all branches of the weaving and cane industries.

The Labour and Welfare Officer visited the prison on various occasions in connection with juvenile offenders and probation work.

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden MM1

The street lighting in the Crescent and Secretariat areas has been improved by the provision of fluorescent lighting of the latest type. In other areas the street lighting has been extended. [373] 365 377

The cost of electricity to the general public is 5 as. per unit for lighting and fans, and 2 as. per unit for refrigerators. The power rates for industrial purposes vary with the amount used and whether or not condensers are fitted to the motors. The average rate however is approximately 2·87 annas per unit in 1949 and 2·95 annas per unit in 1950 (an anna is 1·125 pence).

PUBLIC WORKS

New Buildings

The principal Government works or buildings completed in 1949 and 1950 are listed below : 653

By Contractors

24 houses in the Aidroos Valley Crater.
24 quarters for Police, Khormaksar.
New Police Station, Khormaksar.
2 primary schools for girls, Crater.
Primary school for boys, Crater.
3 expatriate and eleven staff quarters for Aden College.

By the Department

160 working-class houses, Sheikh Othman
New Customs, Salt and Excise Office, Steamer Point.
5 houses for senior Government officials, Khormaksar.
Tuberculosis ward for 40 patients, Civil Hospital.
New record room and upper storey, Treasury Office.
Conversion of the marine craft unit camp into lines for the coal coolies, Maalla.
Upper storey over Barrack Nos. 2 and 3 Armed Police Lines, Crater.
Technical College Workshop, Maalla.
Extension to both boys' and girls' primary schools, Sheikh Othman.
Four extra class rooms, Boys' Primary School, Maalla.

Architect's Department

During 1950 the Architect's Department was strengthend by the arrival of an Assistant Architect from the United Kingdom and an Architectural Draughtsman from India, but shortage of trained staff is still a problem. 653 341

Schemes have been prepared and are now under consideration by Government for extensions to the Maternity Clinic, Crater, the new telephone exchange building, Maalla, and the building for the Government printing press, Tawahi. The Surveyor has carried out a large number of surveys in various parts of the Colony connected with proposed future building operations, but he too is handicapped by lack of staff.

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden mm1

Mechanical Workshop

655 496 A vehicle workshop is maintained where all Government motor vehicles are serviced and repaired. Animal drawn vehicles such as refuse carts, night soil carts, etc., are also made and repaired.

Furniture

655 322 The Government instituted a scheme to manufacture and repair furniture on hire to officials residing in Government houses. Two thousand two hundred and fifty pounds was spent during 1949 and 1950 on new furniture made in the workshop and obtained from contractors.

Building Plans

653 331 Building plans submitted by the general public for approval are checked and then forwarded to the Township Authority for sanction. All buildings in course of erection are inspected at regular intervals to ensure that they comply with regulations. Two hundred and seventy-six permanent building permits were issued during the two years.

Crown Lands

423 427 653 The Director of Public Works, who is also Commissioner and Registrar of Lands, scrutinises various titles submitted to him for transfers of immoveable property. All transfers are registered. One hundred and forty-five plots of land were leased to the public for the erection of residential, commercial and industrial buildings in the period under review.

Stores

653 As many new works and all maintenance works are carried out by direct labour, large stocks of building and other stores have to be kept. Stocks valued at £91,200 in 1949 and £78,000 in 1950 were issued from the Central Stores Depot.

Labour

464 Some difficulty was experienced in obtaining skilled artisans but plenty of labourers were available. The standard of tradesmen is not high, but it is hoped that the new Technical College will go a long way to raise the standard.

Chapter 11: Communications

ROADS

[496] 491 There are no railways in the Colony and the communication between the townships is by road.

499 The main roads are constructed in bituminous macadam, and the carriage-ways vary in width from 20 feet to about 40 feet. Some secondary roads are similarly constructed. There are about eight miles of streets in the bazaar areas which have not yet been made up.

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden MM1

All roads are kept in reasonable repair, and as and when funds and materials permit, existing unmade roads are surfaced. 491

The Colony has : 499

Bituminous Macadam Roads	*Water bound Macadam Roads*	*Unmade Roads*	*Total*
56·07 miles	6·30 miles	11·9 miles	74·27 miles

The Development Committee has recommended that £200,000 of the surplus funds of the Colony be used for improving roads, and £37,500 of this sum was spent in making up new roads in 1949 and 1950.

The roads are well sign-posted and traffic lines provided where necessary. Road reflecting studs are also fitted on dangerous bends and some narrow roads. All street lighting is by electricity, and most main roads and the majority of the secondary roads are lighted. 491 487

The expenditure on roads during the years 1949 and 1950 was £74,000. 653

The following vehicles were registered at the Police Traffic Office : 493

	1949	1950
Taxis	196	196
Omnibuses	61	61
Private cars	1,419	1,115
Commercial vehicles ..	337	322
Motor cycles	76	74
Horse gharries	12	6
Camel carts :		
Water carts	30	36
Loading carts	58	64
Bicycles	132	126

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

There are four post offices in the Colony, two in the Eastern Protectorate and one at Kamaran. There are also 21 postal agencies in the Eastern Aden Protectorate. Money order business is transacted at the four post offices in the Colony, at one in the Protectorate and at Kamaran. Communication with all parts of the world is maintained mainly by the use of the British Overseas Airways Corporation services. 205

Cable & Wireless Ltd. provide cable and telegraphic communication with all parts of the world and operate a wireless telegraph station which works to Perim Island, Kamaran, Mukalla and Seiyun in the Eastern Aden Protectorate, and to adjacent countries, i.e. French and British Somaliland, Ethiopia, Yemen, etc. 206

The overseas radio-telephone service with the United Kingdom was formally opened on 17th July, 1950, by the Secretary of State and His Excellency Sir Reginald Champion. The service is also extended to Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika and it is hoped that eventually it will be available to India.

The automatic telephone exchange continues to be congested and there can be no substantial improvement until a new exchange

3:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden MM1

A new three-million gallon reservoir and a new pump-house will be completed in 1953.

The waterworks are operated by the Public Works Department.

Revenue derived from the sale of water during 1951 and 1952 was £733,740 and £866,900 and expenditure was £756,950 and £864,035 respectively.

ELECTRICITY

A public supply of electricity was instituted in 1926 and the plant consisted initially of three 330 kVA. turbo-generating sets with oil fire boilers. By the end of 1947 various extensions had taken place and the installed capacity consisted of two 1,200 kW. turbo-generating sets and one 750-kW. set, with corresponding boiler capacity. In addition, two 250 kW. diesel sets were installed in an adjacent power station. This capacity had not been increased by the end of 1952 and demand has exceeded the available capacity of the plant for some time. The Electricity Department provides supplies to both civilian and military consumers, but in recent years it has been necessary to operate military standby plant during peak periods.

The following are the particulars of the present supply :

Generation and HT distribution : 6,600 volts, 3 phase, 50 cycles.
Local distribution LT supply : 400/230 volts, 3 phase, 4 wire.

The following are the particulars of generation, revenue and consumers for 1951 and 1952 :

Year	*Units Generated*	*Total Revenue*	*Number of Consumers*
1951	12,175,971	£151,623	5,281
1952	14,167,635	£231,244	6,131

A new power station is under construction which will comprise initially two 5,000-kW. sets with the necessary boiler capacity. Work is expected to be completed early in 1954.

PUBLIC WORKS

Buildings

Contractors have completed or are in the process of building the following offices and quarters :

10 Experimental Class 'C' houses, Hedjuff.
4 houses for subordinate staff, Electricity Department.
6 erectors' quarters, New Power Station.
10 servants' quarters, Officers' Houses, Khormaksar.
4 houses for Government officers, Khormaksar.
3 blocks of 'A' Class flats, Maalla.
15 houses for subordinate staff, Crater.
Aden College (see Chapter 7).
40 sweepers' quarters, Crater.
8 offices for the Income Tax Department.
New Printing Press Building.
Extensions and additions to the Maternity Clinic, Crater.
Conversion of the old Protectorate College to a block of 4 flats.

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden MM1

653 A considerable amount of building work has also been undertaken departmentally, the principal items being :

120 working-class quarters, Sheikh Othman.
Extensions to P.W.D. Office, Crater.
Telephone Test Huts, Khormaksar, Crater and Sheikh Othman.
New roofs to 12 Police Quarters, Maala.

All public buildings have been kept in reasonable repair and minor improvements effected where necessary.

Draft schemes with preliminary estimates have been prepared for the Girls' College, the new hospital and swimming pools at Seera Island and Tawahi.

Building by the public has increased considerably. One hundred and eighty-three permanent building permits were issued and 188 plots of land leased for the erection of residential, commercial, and industrial premises in 1951. Two hundred and eighty permits were granted in 1952.

Because the acute shortage of accurate survey data in the Fortress area, various survey projects have been arranged by contract. This held up sale of land but 68 leases were completed in 1952.

Roads

A new Executive Engineer was appointed.

The work of macadamising main roads in the developed areas has continued and several streets have been surfaced during the year.

Work was completed on a new road from Sheikh Othman via United Salt Works to the Rubble Mound, and a survey made of a projected access road via Aidroos Valley to the "Plateau" above Crater.

Work was also in hand on the construction of the new St. Mary's Bridge, Crater, which will provide a considerably improved alignment connecting the Esplanade and Main Pass Roads. A subway for foot traffic will be a feature of the construction.

Chapter 11 : Communications

SHIPPING

504 The Port of Aden affords safe accommodation for vessels up to 34 feet in draught ; vessels of deeper draught can be handled by working the tides. The minimum depth of water at low tide available in the approach channel and the inner mooring basin is 36 feet ; there are 19 first-class berths, including 11 oil berths, suitable for large vessels ; five second-class berths, including one oil berth, suitable for vessels of medium size ; eight third-class berths suitable for small vessels. The oil berths are connected to the land installation by submarine pipe line ; all berths are available for the supply of bunker coal and general purposes.

505 The number of vessels, exclusive of country craft, which entered the